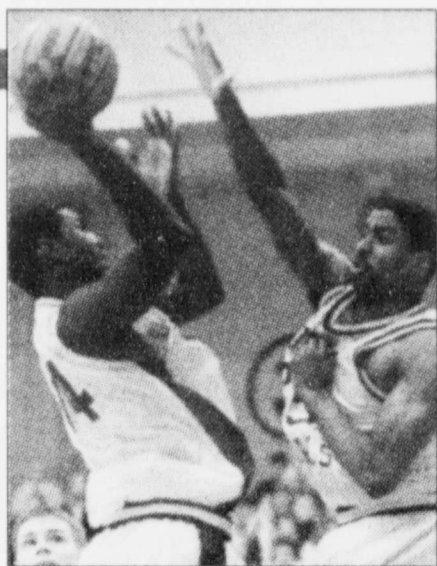


That's all folks:

Men's hoops finish at Big West tourney, 8

A strange trip: Were Poly's first 100 years good? 4

High: 57° / Low: 44°

For extended weather forecast, see **Daily Dose**, 2

The California Polytechnic

Mustang

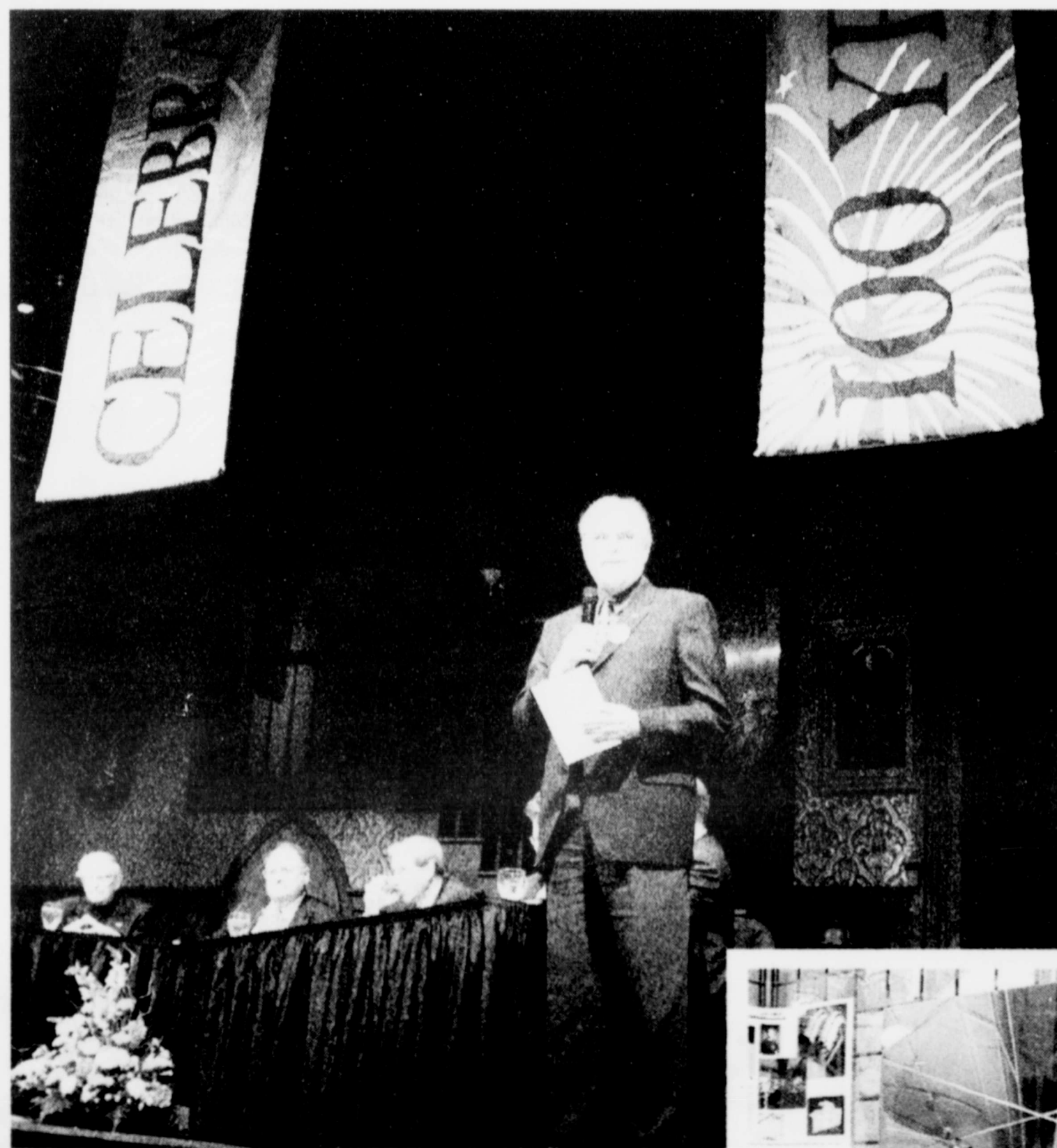
Volume LXV, Number 100, 1916-2001

Friday, March 9, 2001

DAILY



Centennial Kickoff



Officials remember Poly's history

By April Pack

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Seven panelists spoke Thursday in the Cal Poly Theatre and reflected on the university's last 100 years, telling stories of the changes it has seen and the many contributions of Julian A. McPhee, who served as Cal Poly president from 1933 to 1967.

The keynote speakers of the night were Cal Poly President Warren Baker, Carol McPhee Norton (McPhee's daughter) and Robert E. Kennedy (former president of Cal Poly). There were also three Cal Poly graduates who spoke.

"What you will see this afternoon is what it means to be a part of a university that has had good days and great days in its past and greater days in its future," said Paul Zingg, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. Zingg introduced the panel.

Daniel Krieger, professor of history

and panel moderator, said that the vision for Cal Poly was the vision of Myron Angel.

When Angel came to California for the gold rush, he was almost penniless when he reached San Francisco. He was offered a job there shingling a roof, and it was then he thought of the idea for a college "that would not only teach the hand, but also the heart, and it had to be adaptable," Krieger said.

Krieger said that, if anything, Cal Poly has been adaptable throughout its history, by having to reinvent itself time and time again.

"It was by accident that Cal Poly was born," Krieger said. "Myron Angel never forgot his experience of not being able to drive a nail and realized he had to learn how to drive one. He also wanted to build up this little town he moved to in 1878, San Luis Obispo."

see **PANEL**, page 6

KARIN DRIESEN & DANIEL GONZALES/MUSTANG DAILY

Above, former Cal Poly President Robert Kennedy, left, and President Warren Baker attend the unveiling of the new Cal Poly book Thursday. Left, Provost Paul Zingg introduces the panel at the colloquium in the Cal Poly Theatre. Below, an exhibit in the University Union displays time capsules. Far below, former Cal Poly students Rita Hill and John Sweeney discuss what the campus was like when they were here.

Book unveiled at History Day

By Matt Smart

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

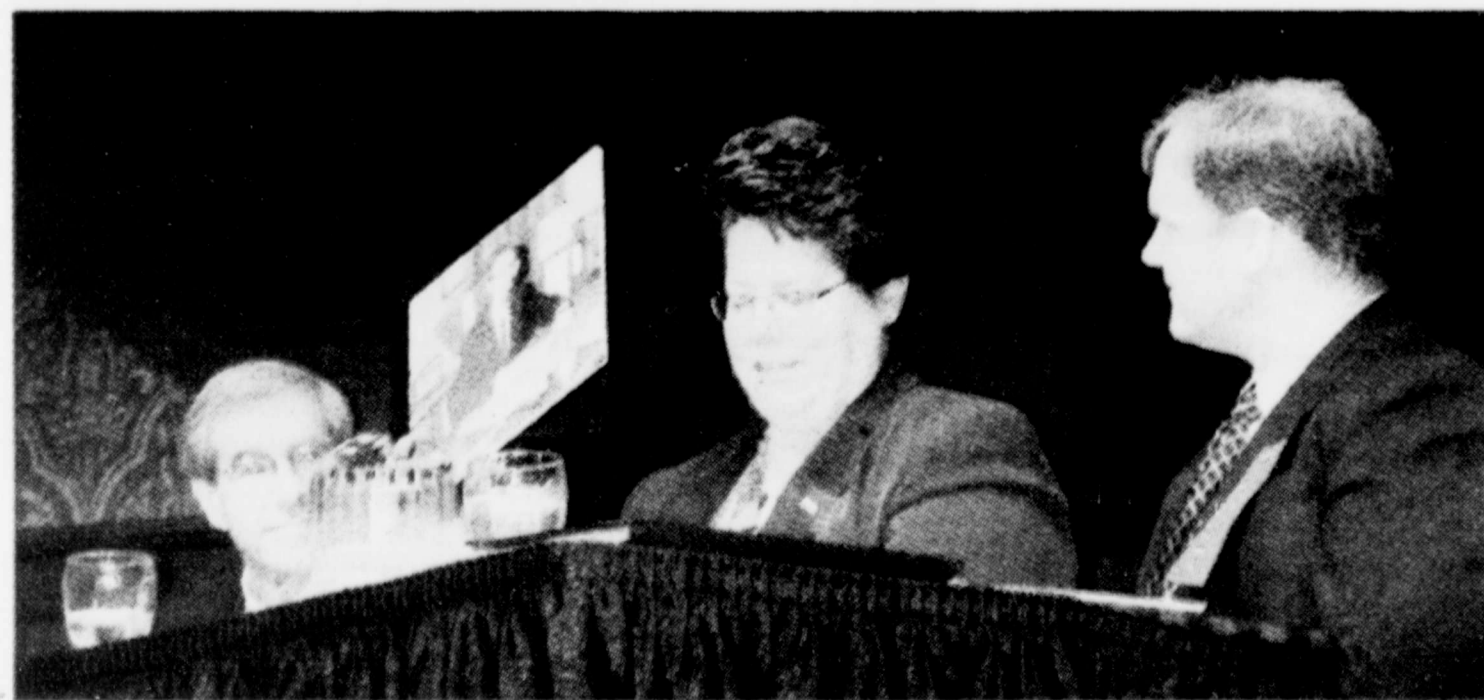
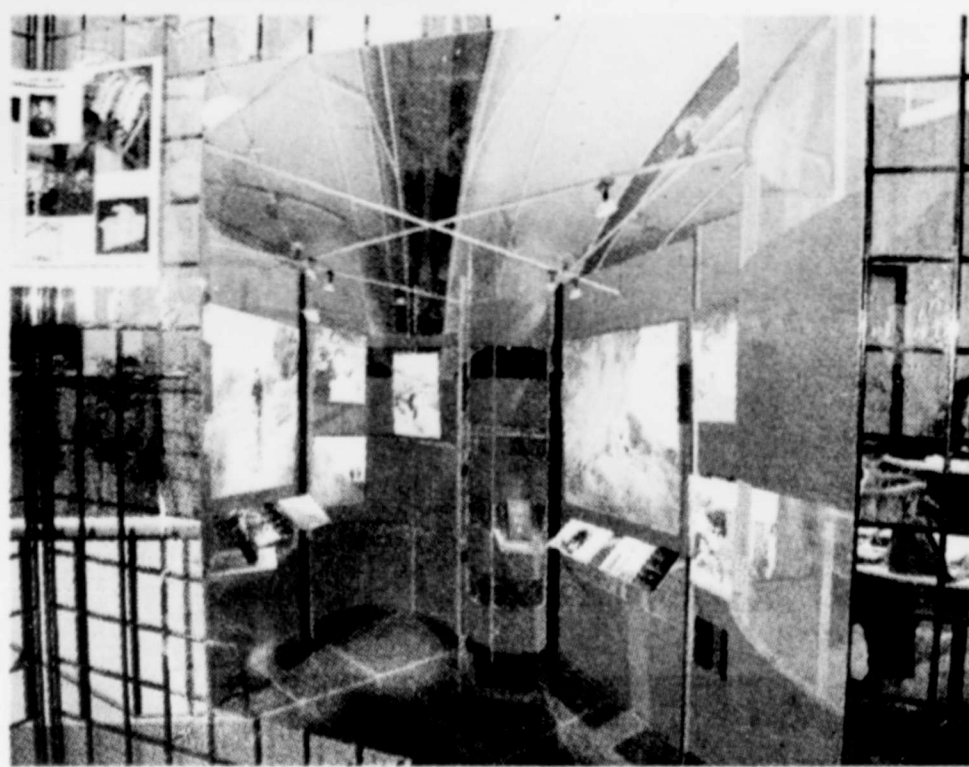
The Centennial Celebration has begun.

Cal Poly alumni, founders and visionaries traversed the campus Thursday commemorating 100 years of higher educational life in San Luis Obispo.

The day began at the Robert E. Kennedy Library with a centennial history exhibit. The exhibit included various memorabilia highlighting events throughout Cal Poly's history. The event at the library was also used to announce the release of a new book, "Cal Poly: The First Hundred Years." The book was written and coordinated by Nancy Loe, the assistant library dean for Collections Management and Special Collections.

"It's a very visual book," said Paul Adalian, assistant library dean for Information and Instructional Services at Kennedy Library. "As you go through it, you will see lots of photos and memorabilia."

The book is filled with features on all

see **HISTORY**, page 2

daily dose

TODAY'S SUN

Rise: 6:21 a.m. / Set: 6:06 p.m.

TODAY'S MOON

Rise: 6:22 p.m. / Set: 6:40 a.m.

TODAY'S TIDE

AT PORT SAN LUIS

Low: 3:14 a.m. / 1.04 feet

High: 9:18 a.m. / 6.15 feet

Low: 4:01 p.m. / -0.99 feet

High: 10:22 p.m. / 5.01 feet

5-DAY FORECAST



FRIDAY

High: 57° / Low: 44°



SATURDAY

High: 58° / Low: 39°



SUNDAY

High: 62° / Low: 41°



MONDAY

High: 66° / Low: 45°



TUESDAY

High: 71° / Low: 46°

HISTORY

continued from page 1

of the decades of campus life and chronicles the academic progress the university has made. The book is the first full-length history of Cal Poly and is 178 pages in length with 320 illustrations.

Paul Zingg, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said, "It's very appealing, it will have a long shelf life. People will find it of interest for many years to come."

Zingg praised the themes of the book.

"The themes underscore the idea — this place has an interesting story to tell," he said.

Loe enjoyed putting the book together and especially liked the section on the history of the Cal Poly P and the World War II era.

"The World War II era had a tremendous impact," she said. "There was a 'Rosie the Riveter' training program on campus. Campus life mirrored how life was changing for the rest of the country."

Throughout the day, time capsules were exhibited in the University Union. The time capsules displayed a diverse group of imaginative proposals created as part of a class project by third year architecture students.

The lobby of the Administration Building continued where the library exhibit left off, with more historical photographs and memorabilia.

President Warren Baker remarked on the momentous occasion.

"The century is a nice time to reflect on the university, on its good times and its hard times, as well as use as a stepping stone to the future," Baker said.

Former President Robert Kennedy first came to the university in 1940 to teach journalism. As he sat near the time capsules on the second floor of the UU Thursday, he spoke of his experiences before being named president. He said he helped then-president Julian McPhee fight for Cal Poly's growth, despite constrictive boundaries from the chancellor's office.

"We really won the battle and Cal Poly has a reputation now of being at the top of list and the crown jewel of the system," he said.

Term withdrawals undergo revision

By Jon Hughes

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Starting next quarter, withdrawing from a term won't be as easy as it used to be. Based on findings in the 1999-2000 CSU Audit of Records and Registration Processes, there will be new requirements for term withdrawal between the third and seventh weeks of the quarter.

Students wishing to withdraw from a quarter of classes must now obtain a signature from the department chair of their major. One of the problems uncovered by the audit was that students were withdrawing from terms between the third and seventh weeks of classes without needing permission from school officials.

Myron Hood, the chair of Cal Poly's Academic Senate, said that

the revision is not to the process, but to the form that students must fill out in order to withdraw.

"We're not changing our policy, we're just changing the form," he said.

Marcia Friedman, records process manager for the Office of Academic Records, said that the revision has less to do with changing the old process and more to do with refining the university's position on term withdrawals in accordance with the findings of the audit.

"We were not processing the forms as we should have in regards to executive order," she said.

Hood was more specific.

"Before, students could basically sign it themselves and send it in and no one would know," he said.

In order for students to withdraw from a term, they must have a seri-

ous and compelling reason for doing so. Such reasons can be medical, financial or personal. Withdrawals during the final three weeks of instruction require emergency reasons that are beyond the control of the student.

In the past, no signature was required of students who wished to withdraw from a term. Additionally, withdrawals in the last three weeks now require a signature from the associate dean of the student's college.

Friedman doesn't think the stricter policy will cause students to avoid term withdrawals.

"It may (have an effect) in a few cases, but in most situations it won't," she said. "Most students are not interested in giving up a quarter, and they usually have a good reason if they do."

On the edge



KRAIG ERICKSON/MUSTANG DAILY

Lisa Fabiny, a business sophomore, rappels at Fort Merriam Thursday. As part of ROTC, members do various exercises outdoors for their labs and training.

Mel Gibson movie cast tryouts held on campus

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Casting agents will be on campus today looking for extras for a new Mel Gibson film.

Icon Productions and Paramount Pictures are working on a new movie based on "We Were Soldiers Once ... And Young," a book by retired Lt. Gen. Harold Moore and Joseph Galloway. The story focuses on a Vietnam War combat scene in which an American battalion is surrounded by more than 2,000 enemies.

The production companies are looking for extras to play 200 young American soldiers and more than 200 Vietnamese and Asian soldiers, according to a press release.

The filming will take place April 2 through June 19 at Fort Hunter Liggett. The release said chosen extras may need to have time off from their jobs.

Gibson will play Lt. Col. Hal Moore, and the extras will be included in the "hero team."

Casting will take place today from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Career Services, room 224.

Santee shooting continues to shock families, community

SANTEE, Calif. (AP) — Santana High School did everything right: anonymous sign-in sheets for students to report threats, SWAT training for the principal, programs to help youngsters get along, including one called "Names can really hurt us."

A sheriff's deputy was assigned part-time to the school. Seven full-time campus supervisors roamed the grounds. Extra phones, radios and speakers were installed to spread word of trouble quickly across the 1,900-student campus.

Somehow, it wasn't enough.

On Monday morning, a freshman who had been picked on and had threatened over the weekend to shoot his schoolmates opened fire in a boys' bathroom, killing two students and wounding 13 others, including two adults, police said.

"We were so prepared, but it still happened," the shaken principal, Karen Degischer, said at a meeting of parents Wednesday night.

Like Santana, hundreds of schools across the country have tried to learn the lessons of Columbine from two years ago.

The question now is: Is any of it ever enough?

"I think what we have to say here is there are no guarantees a tragedy can be prevented," said Pam Riley, former director of the Center for the Prevention of School Violence in Raleigh, N.C. "I've started over the past couple of years since Columbine to focus on safer schools. Not safe schools, but safer schools."

Most agree that in the end, one student with a gun can thwart all the precautions.



Letting nature be the teacher

By Byron Samayoa
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Like a time warp back to the 1960s, students will be able to sit on grassy knolls and discuss environmental issues while getting college credit this spring.

Field trips to Horse Canyon, Poly Canyon and other Cal Poly facilities will be part of a new class offered this spring, but not for a geology or science course — it will be a part of the English department.

English professor Steven Marx will teach the new English 380, Ecolit: Reading and Writing the Landscape. The class will mix literature, science, geology and the arts. The idea of merging literature and landscape is not a new one.

"There have been natural histo-

ry literature courses taught in many other campuses, but this is the first time in Cal Poly," Marx said.

The class will meet Wednesdays and Fridays, in the late afternoon, during its first quarter. Marx explained that Wednesdays' lectures will be taught indoors, and there will be discussion on the week's reading, including the ethical, social and scientific controversies that are mentioned.

Friday's classes will include a walk to an appropriate site on the Cal Poly campus and discussion of the week's text. That day's excursion will be on foot or by van to landscapes represented and responded to in the week's literature, such as creeks, grassland, ponds and mountain tops. To reflect the reading, each week's excursion will emphasize a topic in natural history — climate, geol-



COURTESY PHOTO

English 380, otherwise known as Ecolit, will offer an opportunity for students to get involved with their environment while learning English lessons. The course will be taught by professor Steven Marx, and will fulfill the C3 general education requirement.

ogy, archaeology and ecosystems. In addition to talks at stopping points by Marx and guest lecturers, students will split into small groups and share their own writing on landscape features.

The reading for the class will include the Bible and works by Virgil, John Milton, Terry Tempest Williams and Baxter

Troutman. Troutman's Cal Poly master's degree thesis in biology, "Spirit of the Valley," is published by Sierra Club Books.

The writing assignments for the class will consist of journals, imitations of literary texts, an analysis of nature writing and eco-literary essays.

"I want students to get an appre-

ciation for the richness of eco-lit, and the 10,000 acres of Cal Poly resources," Marx said. "I want the appreciation to inspire them to create a personal response."

As an added bonus, the class will not only fulfill the C3 general education requirement, but will also count for the graduation writing requirement, or GWR.

DON'T LET thieves help themselves.

Take a few simple precautions so your car isn't an easy target. Burglars prey on autos that demand little effort.

Use common sense to limit your chances of becoming a victim of auto burglary:

- Always lock your car
- Roll up your windows when leaving the car, even in hot weather
- Store cellular phones, purses and other valuables in the trunk; never leave them visible in the car
- Park in well-lighted areas if at all possible

SLOPD
SAN LUIS OBISPO POLICE DEPARTMENT

www.slopd.org

Families get almost \$19 million from Coast Guard in sailboat suit

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Families who alleged the Coast Guard botched a rescue, leading to the death of four people in a sailboat wreck, were awarded almost \$19 million from the federal government on Thursday.

Michael Cornett, 49, of Hiltons, Va., and his two sons, Michael Paul, 16, and Daniel, 13, died in the wreck of the sailboat Morning Dew after it ran into one of the Charleston Harbor jetties on a stormy night in 1997.

Bobby Lee Hurd, their 14-year-old cousin from Mountain City, Tenn., also was killed.

"This tragedy was avoidable," U.S. District Judge David Norton wrote in his 64-page decision. "It was not an angry sea or cruel weather that impeded the Coast Guard's ability to rescue the ... Morning Dew's passengers. It was human error, the impetuous termination of a search and rescue mission approximately 30 minutes before sunrise."

Norton held a trial without a jury in August. He ruled that Cornett's wife, Libby, should receive \$6.3 million in damages for the loss of each of her two children. Deirdre Lynn Hurd was awarded the same amount for her son, Bobby.

Norton said the boys could have been saved, had the Coast Guard pursued the search more diligently. The judge did not award any damages for the death of Michael Cornett, saying he likely was thrown overboard and drowned before he could have been rescued.

The families had asked for a total of \$35 million. They alleged

the Coast Guard was negligent in handling the search and rescue for the stricken vessel.

On a taped radio call, Daniel Cornett issued a mayday at 2:17 a.m. on Dec. 29, 1997. A Coast

"It was not an angry sea or cruel weather that impeded the Coast Guard's ability to rescue the ... Morning Dew's passengers. It was human error."

David Norton
U.S. District Judge

Guard petty officer tried to return the call but got no reply. Later, the officer said he did not hear the word mayday.

Around 6 a.m., a crewman on a steamship entering the harbor said he heard cries for help from the water. A pilot boat searched but found nothing.

The Coast Guard did not dispatch its own units until about 11 a.m., when the bodies of two of the boys were found on a nearby beach.

Government attorneys had argued the case should be dismissed because, under the law, the Coast Guard has no obligation to search.

The families' lawyers said once a search was started, the Coast Guard must conduct it in a reasonable manner and that was not done in the case of the Morning Dew.

Today's issue: What a long, strange trip it's been 100 years of goodness / Cal Poly's many wrongs

With the arrival of Cal Poly's centennial celebration, the university is able to look back through history and reflect on its accomplishments. Cal Poly has many, and that is how it has been able to reach the status of the best public university in the western United States, voted by U.S. News and World Report.

It seems pretty amazing how much growth this college has seen since the first day of classes began in October 1903, with only 20 students enrolled. This number has risen to 16,000 today, and the university has become one of the most competitive state schools in California.

The students of Cal Poly are what have brought the school its reputation and prestige. They have earned this often because of their many projects that parallel the school motto of "learn by doing." Some students have even changed history. On Dec. 10, 1989, Cal Poly aeronautical engineering students created the first certified human-powered helicopter.

As early as 1925, Cal Poly began formulating an idea for a school motto. In this year, enterprise projects were established for agriculture students, who spent mornings in class and afternoons on projects. The motto for this program began with "earn while you learn." In this same year, a Junior Farm Center Loan Fund, which was the forerunner of Foundation, was established to provide students with financial aid for projects.

In 1995, Cal Poly initiated the Cal Poly Plan. This was implemented to enhance the polytechnic educational program, support student programs, and increase institutional efficiency and accountability.

Since 1993, Cal Poly has earned national recognition as the best public university in the western United States in the "America's Best Colleges" issue of U.S. News & World Report. In 1999, the College of Engineering was declared the best public undergraduate engineering school in the country.

Not only do students do wonderful things while they are on campus, but many use their Cal Poly degree to make great accomplishments after they graduate. A college of engineering alumnus, Burt Rutan, designed the Voyager aircraft in 1986. This aircraft was the first to make a non-stop, non-refueled flight around the world.

In 1995, aeronautical engineering graduate Robert Gibson commanded Space Shuttle Atlantis to the first U.S. rendezvous with Russian Space Station Mir. A Cal Poly pennant is now onboard there.

As a Cal Poly student, I appreciate the fact that the school does keep its acceptance low, and that this has led to the ratio of students to teachers being 20-to-1. This allows the teachers to know their students by their faces, and not just by a number on the roll sheet. In my two years at Cal Poly, I have learned that teachers here are more than willing to help a student if he or she is having a problem, or even if that person just wants to come in and talk. The fact that students can feel comfortable going into teachers' offices and speaking with them really enhances the learning experience.

April Pack is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

In its early history, Cal Poly decided to change its school colors from green and orange to green and gold. This decision, while allowing spirited students to avoid garish fashion faux pas, also happened to be one of the few things this school has done right in the last 100 years.

Since 1901, Cal Poly has fumbled along blindly, making many more mistakes than other, more respectable and street-smart universities. I'm sure Chancellor Charles B. Reed has, on more than one occasion, restrained himself from shaking his head at his wayward daughter of the Central Coast saying, "Why can't you be more like Chico State?"

Cal Poly opened its doors for the first day of classes Oct. 1, 1903. The first bachelor's degree was awarded May 28, 1942. What was going on between those dates? Students back then must have

been throwing some raging box socials, considering it took almost 40 years to turn one of them out with a noteworthy education.

Cal Poly admitted women from the very beginning, then rejected them in 1927, said it would accept them in 1937, but actually admitted them as students in 1956 (provided that all seven or so of them take only certain house-keeping-related classes), and eventually allowed them to live on campus. This is no way to treat a lady! I've found that, in general, women don't like to be jerked around. Our school, however, certainly did a good job at toying with several females' emotions.

In 1927, the name "Cal Poly" came into popular use. Allowing this was a big mistake, although the name's progenitors had no idea of the legal battle that would be broiling 74 litigious years later. Allowing Pomona to adopt a suspiciously and exactly similar name for its college (Cal Poly) wasn't too bright of a move, either. Administration could have saved thousands of people hours of confusion if it had clearly established the identity of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, from the outset. As it stands today, as a result of those logo pioneers' negligence, Cal Poly is enmeshed in a dispute with a local clothing retailer, and has often been mistaken as another, less prestigious college when seen from Highway 101.

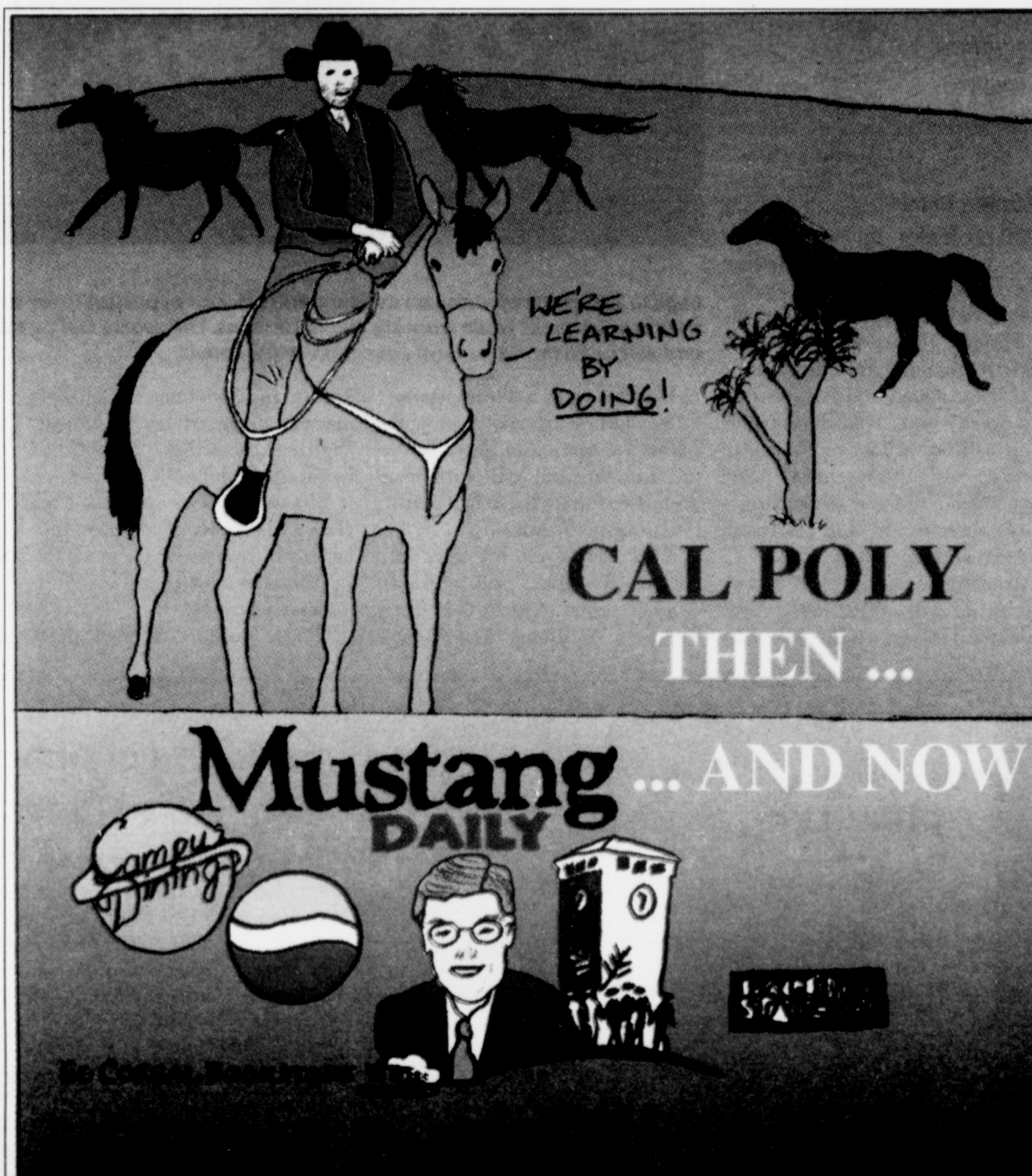
Another of Cal Poly's big mistakes was cancelling the raucous Poly Royal in 1990. Chronic partyers were forced to seek new outlets for their wild fiestas, turning Mardi Gras into a beehive of chaos that erupted with unprecedented arrests and an accident this year.

In more recent history, Cal Poly allowed the Borg-like Foundation to slowly exert its collective across the campus. This, indirectly, has led to such travesties as the renaming of the Sandwich Plant and a total monopoly on anything money related. Also, as I have often commented, one of this school's biggest mistakes was painting over the red handprints that reminded students of the now numerous crimes against women that have occurred here. This topic is best suited for a less frivolous commentary, however.

And finally, some small problems I've noticed in my four years at Cal Poly: The word "polytechnic" has no place being in a school hymn. On a related note, administration offers little to no explanation of the lyrics to our fight song. Most freshman (or seniors, for that matter) have no idea what "chinning the moon," "kicking the frost out" or "cutting a rusty" may be. And "Hi Ki Yi?"

Come on.

Ryan Miller is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily opinion editor.



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"Drink the pee."

Printed by University Graphic Systems

Health concerns, vice-presidential duties don't mix

Vice President Cheney, who has a history of heart problems, underwent a procedure Monday to clear a narrow artery after suffering from episodes of chest pains for three days.

Dick Cheney's health has a lot of people concerned that he will not be able to fulfill his obligations as vice president.

Cheney's latest heart problems have raised new questions about the health of a vice president who wields enormous influence within the new Bush administration, serving virtually as chief operations officer to President George W. Bush's board chair.

The health of any vice president should be an enormous concern to our

country, but the fact that Cheney is a vice president with intense involvement in the Bush administration makes his health concerns even more warranted.

Cheney's duties have particular importance in this administration, for several reasons. With an evenly divided Senate, his tie-breaking vote gives Republicans an edge in the upper chamber. Also, unlike most of his predecessors, he has had no presidential aspirations, and his loyalty to Mr. Bush is considered unchallenged. Cheney's broad political experience is a tremendous boon to one of the least politically-experienced presidents in U.S. history.

According to the Washington Post, some people in the administration refer to the former Wyoming congressman

as the "prime minister." He's becoming one of the most powerful vice presidents in history. It seems very risky to put so much stock in a person with fatal health problems.

Cheney keeps an extraordinarily busy schedule. He has helped shape and is currently helping to sell President Bush's tax-cut plan and budget. How can he possibly keep up his vigorous schedule and maintain his health?

According to the New York Daily News, even close friends of Cheney are saying it's time for him to cut back on his duties because the stress of his job is contributing to his health problems.

Cheney is like an octopus because he has his arm in every part of government. The vice president is in charge of administration energy planning and

is a leading voice on foreign affairs and national security issues. He's also the first vice president to have offices in both houses of Congress. How can he cut back on his duties when he plays such an intricate part of our political system?

The vice president has already suffered from four heart attacks and just had to undergo an angioplasty to open a clogged artery. How much more can his body take before it totally gives out?

According to CNN, the vice president said he had improved his diet and stepped up his exercise regime after his November heart attack. But it's pretty obvious diet and exercise haven't helped out much because the day after his interview with CNN, Cheney had to have surgery on his artery.

Cheney's doctors seem to be under-

playing his serious health risks. Doctors are saying it's likely that Cheney will be able to carry out his intense responsibilities as vice president. But "likely" isn't good enough when it comes to the state of our nation.

It doesn't take a doctor to know that the odds are tremendous that there will be more health problems for our vice president over the next four years – just look at the schedule and the responsibilities this man carries. If anything happens to Cheney, it could be the undoing of the Bush administration.

Candice Conti is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letters to the editor

You don't know me Editor,

Luke Cherry's response () to my column ("Gay couples deserve every right to marry," Feb. 28) was a prime example of attacking the messenger because of disdain for the message. I will refrain from responding in kind, as this would undermine the credibility of my argument.

As established in my column, individual religious beliefs are not justification for withholding fundamental human rights. While a person is absolutely free to subscribe to a specific set of beliefs, they are not permitted to force those around them to live by those ideals. Just because someone feels that their religion is superior to all others does not mean it should be institutionalized into law – unless we are to invalidate the constitutional notion of freedom of religion.

Luke stated that he's not going to hate me for my "homosexual lifestyle." Let me first mention how relieved I am by that statement, and in return, I'd offer to refrain from hating him for his "Christian lifestyle." The idea that there exists a "homosexual lifestyle" at all was previously invalidated in my column ("It's impossible to disagree with homosexuality," Feb. 7) – I would suggest a perusal of the Mustang Daily archives.

Interestingly enough, Luke did say he "hates the things I'm doing." This surprised me. I do not know Luke personally, so I'm somewhat concerned as to how he could know "the things I'm doing." It's not likely that Luke is waiting outside my window, or tapping my phone lines. It does appear, however,

that he is assuming I am engaging in homosexuality. Would it surprise him to learn that I am abstinent?

Mike Sullivan is a computer science junior.

Gays are my equals Editor,

A few days ago I wrote a short insight on my views about homosexuality, responding to Mike Sullivan's piece on homosexual marriage ("Gay couples deserve every right to marry," Feb. 28). In the process, though, I came off as superior or condescending to some people.

I am in no way claiming to be better than anyone else. I know that some Christians can come off as superior or "sinless," but I don't want to be that type of Christian. I want to be someone that is real and not hypocritical about their lifestyle. I don't claim to be perfect in any way.

My only goal in writing the article was to offer my opinion to the readers on my view of homosexuality. I accept homosexuals as equal to myself. I don't consider my actions in any way to be better than theirs or anyone else's. Their sin is different from mine, but the point is none of us is perfect.

Living a Christian lifestyle is all about loving others; loving those different from me morally, physically or spiritually. So, do I love homosexuals? Yes. I do not support them institutionally or politically, but I will love them, like I've been called to do.

Luke Cherry is an architectural engineering freshman.

Allow gay marriages Editor,

Luke Cherry's arguments against homosexual marriage ("Homosexuality is wrong," March 5) were invalid and inflammatory at best. Luke attacked homosexuality, yet claimed that his arguments were reasons not to allow homosexual marriage. As Mike Sullivan pointed out in his letter, ("Gay couples deserve every right to marry," Feb. 28.) the perceived immorality of a person's actions does not negate their right to marry the person they choose.

Although Luke stated that the Bible rejects homosexual marriage, I defy him to show us the specific passage that does so. Admittedly, the Bible does seem to indicate that homosexuality is immoral (once in the Leviticus, once in the New Testament, and a veiled reference in the story of Sodom and Gomorrah). However, even these tenuous references to the immorality of homosexuality do not specifically state that homosexual marriage is wrong. Even if one accepts the Bible as the absolute authority on what should and should not be legal, these scant passages do not speak out strongly enough against homosexual marriage to allow us to reject the rights of homosexuals. What many Christians do not seem to realize is that the Bible is so ambiguous and open to interpretation that even if it were the true word of God, a valid and just government could never be based entirely on this book.

The only argument specifically against homosexual marriage that I could glean from Luke Cherry's letter took this form: A marriage between anyone other than a man and a woman is wrong, therefore a marriage between homosexuals is wrong. This argument is circular (and by the way, Luke, circular arguments are NOT

valid). Here, Luke assumes as true the point that he is trying to argue – that homosexual marriage is wrong.

One possible argument against homosexual marriage is that marriage is meant solely for procreation, and since homosexual couples cannot biologically procreate without assistance, they should not be allowed to marry. By this logic, any couple that cannot have kids should not be allowed to marry. This appears to be a very weak argument. Also, as Luke himself pointed out, this argument is refuted by the Song of Songs in the Bible (imagine that, the Bible seeming to come out in support of homosexual marriage!).

I challenge opponents of homosexual marriage to come up with a compelling argument, not against homosexuals themselves, but against their right to marriage. I am not saying that the U.S. government should force churches to sanction homosexual marriages, but I am saying that our government has no valid basis to reject the rights of homosexuals to marry their partners. We, the American people, as the source of sovereignty for our government, have no right to tell homosexuals that they cannot marry whomever they want, as long as that person is a consenting adult.

Scott Meyer is a chemistry senior.

Do vaccine homework Editor,

It was with great personal interest that I read Kari Savala's column ("Don't discount the importance of vaccinations," Mar. 1), in which she advocates childhood vaccinations and accuses parents who refuse them of being "extremely selfish and shortsighted." I am undoubtedly the person she overheard in the reserve room discussing a vaccine issue concerning my daughter. I wish she had in fact gotten up the nerve to talk to me; I would have happily discussed with her the reasons for my decision, and given her some resources to explore on the other side of the issue. It appears from her article that her main sources of information were an episode of "ER" and a single autism study which she discounts because it "had an experimental group of only 12 children, and no control group."

She also offers the Web site of the Centers for Disease Control, which, not surprisingly, advocates vaccination. For those with absolute faith in the infallibility of the medical system (including drug manufacturers), this information will suffice. However, a little research would have enlightened Ms. Savala to the fact that parents and professionals who question the wisdom and efficacy of vaccination do so with considerably more resources at their disposal than a sensationalistic televi-

sion show and a single study.

In "Autism and Vaccines: A New Look at an Old Story," published by the National Vaccine Information Center (www.909shot.com/NVICSpecialReport.htm), the author states that, "the incidence of autism, like that of learning disabilities, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), asthma, diabetes, arthritis, chronic fatigue syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease and other autoimmune and neurological disorders, has risen dramatically in the United States and other technologically advanced countries, while high vaccination rates have caused the incidence of childhood infectious diseases to fall just as dramatically in these countries. Instead of epidemics of infectious disease, there are now epidemics of chronic disease."

Vaccine opponents don't necessarily dispute that vaccines can be effective, but argue that we trade the risks of what are usually short term acute illnesses (which subsequently provide lifelong immunity) for the risks of long-term immune or neurological damage. The link between autism and vaccination is more than trivial and deserves more study. Readers might be surprised to learn that autism was first diagnosed in 1943 by child psychologist Leo Kanner, who stated that "the condition differs markedly and uniquely from anything reported so far." (from "Vaccines: Are They Really Safe and Effective," by Neil Z. Miller). The onset of this new disease coincided with the availability of pertussis (whooping cough) vaccines.

Parents are entitled to informed consent for any potentially risky medical treatment, and should not be coerced into violating what they think is best for their children. I acknowledge that the issue is not black and white. I do not judge anyone who chooses to vaccinate, and I appreciate not being judged by those who do. There are benefits and risks to both courses of actions; the issue comes down to which risks one is willing to live with. My sister's child suffered a severe vaccine reaction, and, in retrospect, she would rather have taken her chances with a bout of whooping cough than see her child struggle daily with learning disabilities. Certainly, it behooves anyone who must make a decision on such a complex issue as vaccination to do their homework first. The National Vaccine Information Center has a highly informative Web site at www.909shot.com/. For an articulate response to the "E.R." episode which Ms. Savala mentions (including the drug manufacturer's advertising tie-in), see the Mothering Magazine Web site at www.mothering.com/.

Donna Kandel is a mathematics senior.

Pick up an Election Packet

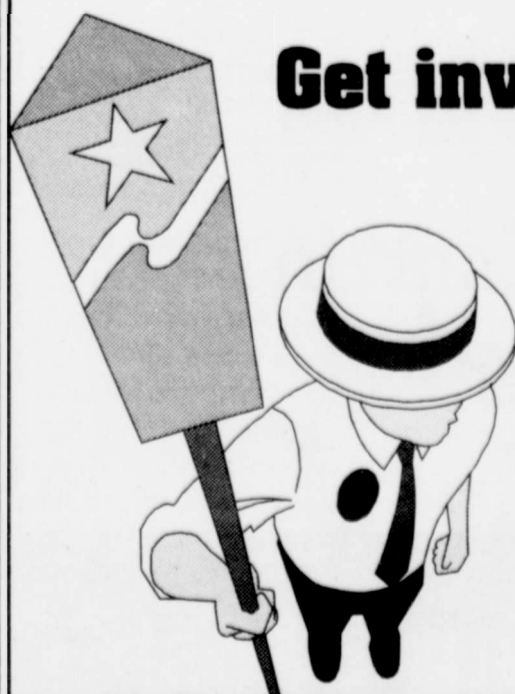
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PANEL

continued from page 1

Norton explained that Cal Poly started out as a high school.

"It was when my father had his vision and began to fight for it that Poly began to get money, and he began to put his ideals in practice that the common man, not the elite, needed to be educated," Norton said.

McPhee came to Cal Poly on a visit in 1949 and noticed that the campus was falling to pieces. Norton explained that the legislature had threatened to close down Cal Poly six times. McPhee went before the legislative committee and pleaded for Cal Poly. Norton said they asked him how much money it would take to run the school. McPhee told them \$75,000 a year, and they agreed to keep funding the school.

"McPhee is the savior of Cal Poly," Kennedy said. "If he hadn't been president, the college wouldn't be what it is today."

Kennedy explained that McPhee knew how to work legislation, and he did so many times to help Cal Poly.

Baker said that when he became president, it was a little daunting because there were 45 years of leadership in the university before him.

"The Cal Poly motto of 'learn by doing' really interested me," Baker said.

He said what he was challenged with was how the college could develop further relationships with the industries in the state of California to help students be engaged in the learning-by-doing

concept.

Robin Baldwin, another panelist, graduated from Cal Poly in 1954. He said that he was a senior in high school in 1947, and he had been accepted to two major agriculture schools in the country.

"I was sitting in my room studying one night when my father came into my room with a copy of Reader's Digest, and he said 'read this article and come and talk to me when you're done,'" Baldwin said.

He said he read that famous article, "Take your cow to college and make it pay." It was an early article about Cal Poly. He said that he ran into his dad's office with tears in his eyes, and he said Cal Poly was the school he wanted to attend.

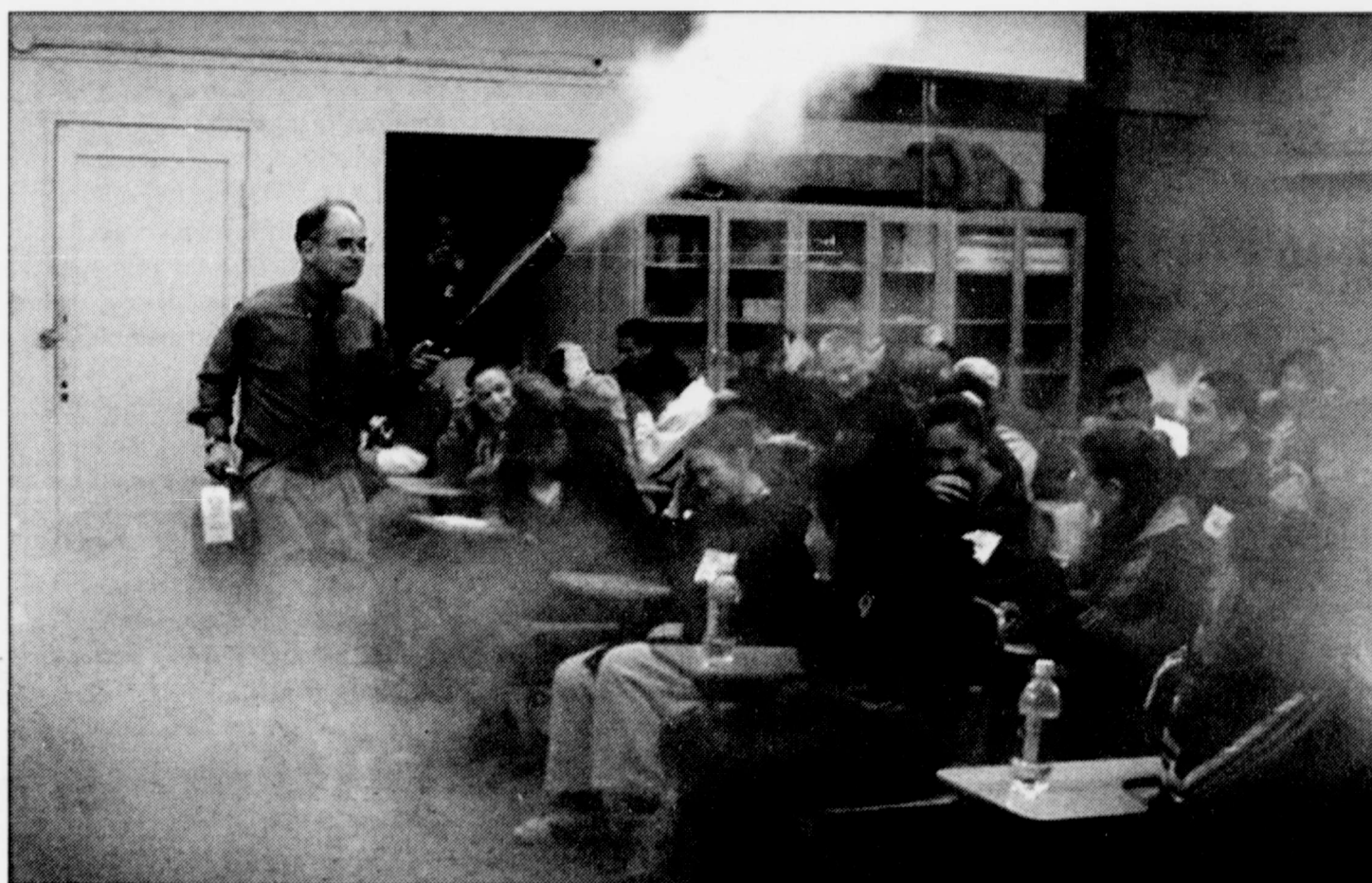
Rita Hill also attended Cal Poly and graduated in 1971.

"When I went to Cal Poly, it was a different time, and things were moving really fast," Hill said. "We had to deal with things like the death of Martin Luther King, and this affected the whole campus."

John Sweeney attended Cal Poly at a time when it was reshaping. In 1989, the ratio of women to men at Cal Poly became equal for the first time in its history.

After the discussion, members of the audience, which consisted mostly of former students and faculty, shared their fond memories with the panel. To close the event, Baker read a birthday letter he had received Thursday morning from President George W. Bush and his wife, Laura.

Blasted with science



BRET HARRISON/MUSTANG DAILY

Phil Bailey, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics, demonstrates chemistry principles to 53 high schoolers in the 26 Hours of Science and Technology in Agriculture program at Cal Poly Thursday.



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Dodgers third baseman will sit out opening day

VERO BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Los Angeles Dodgers third baseman Adrian Beltre will have surgery Monday to close a wound in his abdomen from an emergency appendectomy two months ago.

There was no immediate word as to how long the 21-year-old third baseman will be sidelined.

"He's not going to be available for opening day, that's a certainty," team physician Dr. Michael Mellman said Thursday.

When asked how long Beltre will be sidelined, Mellman said he wasn't sure.

"If you're asking do I think Adrian will play baseball this year, unequivocally yes," Mellman said. "If you ask me when, I'll be a lot smarter after the surgery."

The operation will be performed by Dr. Robert Shorr at the Centinela Hospital Medical Center in Inglewood, Calif. Mellman said it could take anywhere from one to six hours.

Beltre underwent an emergency appendectomy in his native Dominican Republic on Jan. 12, and hasn't eaten solid food since. The wound, in his right lower abdomen, has not healed as doctors expected.

"This was my own decision," Beltre said. "Now, we'll have an idea after the surgery how long I'll be out. I think it will be better for me."

Last weekend, Mellman expressed hope that Beltre would be ready to start the season, and Beltre participated in light workouts this week.

"We've seen the drainage get better and get worse, get better and now get worse again," Mellman said. "We thought it would close on its own, but it's apparent that won't happen in the foreseeable future."

Mellman said the drainage got worse in the last few days, but said the workouts weren't the cause.

"I think it's more coincidence than anything else," Mellman said.

Beltre is expected to remain in the hospital for seven to 10 days after the operation and then begin rehabilitation.

Beltre batted .290 with 20 homers, 85 RBIs and 71 runs scored in 138 games last season. He hit .331 with 12 homers and 47 RBIs after the All-Star break.

"The main goal of the Dodgers has always been the safety and health of Adrian Beltre," general manager Kevin Malone said. "We feel that this is the best step to take at this time in order for Adrian to return and contribute to this team of which he is an important and vital part."

The Dodgers' situation at third base is shaky at best. Pinch-hitting specialist Dave Hansen, a likely replacement for Beltre, broke the middle finger on his left hand last Friday in the exhibition opener and is expected to be out another three to five weeks.

Other possibilities are Chris Donnels, Jeff Reboulet, Tim Bogar and Phil Hiatt.

"Chris Donnels will be a candidate, and we'll explore the possibilities based on what happens over the next few weeks," Dodgers manager Jim Tracy said. "There are also players in other training camps. We'll just see how this shakes out."

Tracy said the Dodgers will especially miss Beltre's defense.

"Even though he committed some errors, he made some mistakes just due to the learning curve," Tracy said. "Over the long haul, he'll be a hell of a third baseman."

SOFTBALL

continued from page 8

UCLA is 11-5 and Fresno State is 14-2.

Friday the Mustangs face No. 1 UCLA and No. 14 Oregon State University. The team meets New

Mexico State University and No. 11 DuPaul Saturday.

Thursday night's game against Fresno State was not over by press time.

Mustang Daily staff writers Byron Samayoa and Michelle Hatfield contributed to this report.

Woolridge faces drug arraignment

VAN NUYS, Calif. (AP) — Orlando Woolridge, who played in the NBA for 13 years, is scheduled to be arraigned March 29 on a misdemeanor drug charge stemming from his arrest last month.

The 41-year-old Woolridge was arrested Feb. 26 for allegedly being under the influence of rock cocaine after police were called to a Chatsworth hotel, according to Mike Qualls of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office.

Woolridge, released on his own recognizance, is charged with a misdemeanor count of being under the influence of a controlled substance. If convicted, he could be sentenced to one year in jail and fined \$1,000.

Woolridge played at Notre Dame before the Chicago Bulls made him a first-round draft pick in 1981. He later played for the Los Angeles Lakers, New Jersey, Philadelphia and Detroit, and coached the Los Angeles Sparks of the WNBA.

BASEBALL

continued from page 8

The starting pitcher for the Mustangs Friday will be junior Brian Haskell (1-0).

Starting Saturday at noon, Cal Poly and Columbia will play a pair of seven-inning games.

Senior Tyler Fitch will take the mound for the Mustangs in the first game of the double-header. Fitch is 1-1 this year. Junior Kevin Correia will get the starting nod for the second game Saturday after most recently pitching two innings of scoreless relief in the second game of Wednesday's double-header with Temple University. Correia is 1-1 this season, pitching exclusively in short relief situations previously.

Senior Jason Blasdel will pitch the first of two seven-inning games on Sunday. Blasdel is coming off a strong five-inning performance against Temple on Tuesday, when he gave up only three runs on three hits, to earn the win. With the victory, Blasdel moved to 2-1 on the year. The starter in the second game will be junior Greg Bochy, who is 2-0 this year. Bochy has been used mostly in short relief this season, but won his first start against Temple in the second game on Wednesday, pitching five innings of two run ball.

Focusing on the fundamentals of

baseball continue to be the keys to success for the Mustangs, Price said.

"We need to pitch well this weekend," he said. "We need to continue progressing with our bats. We've been swinging the bats better lately and attacking the ball in fast ball counts. We need to keep improving on hitting with runners in scoring position."

Several players have been turning in strong performances as of late. Relief pitcher Josh Morton is closing in on a Cal Poly pitching record. The senior has 64 career pitching appearances, just two short of tying the record of 66 held by Mike Zirelli. Zirelli pitched for the Mustangs from 1996-99 and currently pitches in the San Francisco Giants farm system.

Left fielder/designated hitter Bryan Gant and right fielder Phil Thompson are both swinging hot bats. The duo are on 13-game hitting streaks, the team high for a season. Price hopes the rain won't stop the Mustangs from getting to play this weekend.

"We got off to a good start this season, but the rain has slowed us down," he said. "Playing as many games as possible makes a big difference. I know Columbia wants to get in as many games as they can while they're out here."

Exact game times and locations for Friday and Saturday can be found at the Cal Poly athletics Web site, www.gopoly.com.

KNIGHT

continued from page 8

with us, we have no choice but to sue," said Knight's attorney, Russell E. Yates of Denver.

Knight was fired Sept. 10 by IU President Myles Brand after 29 years as coach for violating its "zero-tolerance" policy. The firing came after Knight grabbed a freshman student by the arm and lectured him on manners after he greeted the coach informally.

Knight had 180 days to notify the university of his intention to sue. That deadline is Friday.

Yates said Knight was driving to his home in Arizona after he spent time with the St. Louis Cardinals at spring training in Jupiter, Fla., and was unavailable for comment.

The university denied the allegations.

"We were disappointed and even taken aback to hear the allegations contained in the notice of tort claim," university spokeswoman Susan Dillman said. "The charges are frivolous and totally without merit."

The letter, dated March 2, said the damages were "lost income, pain and suffering, mental humiliation and interference with his ability to obtain subsequent employment."

Yates' letter said the university's actions have hurt \$7 million.

"That's a number we put in there that if we had to sue and there were punitive damages, that's what it would be," Yates said. "That's nowhere near what we think we're entitled to under the contract."

Yates said Knight had not instructed him to file notice, but that not doing so would have constituted "malpractice." He said Knight would be "surprised" to learn he had filed notice with the university.

"We have concerns that the administrators are talking to other college administrators and that is a violation of tort. That is damages," Yates said. "Myles Brand loves to talk, and he's tried to make himself a public figure over the firing of Bob Knight. I think he continues to do that, and one day, he's got to pay the piper."

John Walda, president of Indiana's Board of Trustees, said he also was surprised by the action, but cautioned it was only Knight's intent to file a lawsuit.

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Baseball takes on Columbia at home

By Ryan Ballard

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Rain, rain go away, this weekend we have five games to play.

The Cal Poly baseball team takes on Columbia University for a five-game series this weekend.

Head coach Ritch Price is confident in his team's ability to handle the physical and mental strain of playing five games in three days.

"Without question, we're ready," Price said. "We're trying to make up for about seven games we've missed already this season. Playing more games this weekend gives us an opportunity to play more guys. We have a lot of young guys that deserve a chance to get some game experience."

Friday's game is set to be played at Baggett Stadium at 5 p.m., unless rain soaks the stadium field, at which point the game will be held at SLO Stadium at 6 p.m.

see **BASEBALL**, page 7 Freshman catcher and second baseman Jared Allen slides into base in a game earlier this season.



AARON LAMBERT/MUSTANG DAILY

Loss to UC Irvine brings end to season

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The Cal Poly men's basketball team lost its first game in the Big West tournament Thursday, thus officially ending its season 9-19.

The Mustangs, seeded No. 8, went up against top seed UC Irvine Thursday night in the first round of the conference tournament in Anaheim.

► The team ends its season 9-19.

After a 27-point game for Mustang guard Watende Favors and 23 points from forward Chris Bjorklund, the Mustangs surrendered to the Anteaters 71-66.

Irvine will match up Friday evening with the winner of Thursday's game between No. 4 UC Santa Barbara and No. 5 University of the Pacific. That contest did not have a final score at press time.

The final round of the Big West tournament will be Saturday at 9:30 p.m. The top-scorer in that game will move on to the NCAA tournament.

Knight to sue Indiana U. for slander, libel

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Bob Knight has told Indiana University he intends to sue the school for slander and libel from his September firing, alleging his former employer cost him more than \$7 million.

According to a letter obtained Thursday by The Associated Press, Knight alleges the university also violated the Indiana Open Door Law, inflicted emotional distress and interfered with his ability to find a coaching job.

"If the university doesn't negotiate

see **KNIGHT**, page 7

Softball enjoys early tournament success

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The Mustang softball team opened the fourth annual Hedrick's Hallowell Chevrolet Classic Tournament at Fresno State with a 5-4 win over Colorado State University Thursday night.

Cal Poly improves to 8-6 after its first win in a hectic six-game weekend tournament schedule. Colorado State drops to 3-16.

Capitalizing on a three-error inning, the Mustangs scored all five runs in the fourth inning. The Rams committed a total of four errors in the game. Going into the game against Colorado State, freshman

infielder Roni Sparrey was batting .400 and had a .600 slugging percentage. Pitcher Cassie Vanderbeek posted her second win of the season.

The Mustangs opened Bob Janssen Field with two victories over the UC Riverside Bears last weekend.

► The team is at Fresno State for the weekend.

► The team won its first game 5-4.

Fresno State began a 10-game home stand with the tournament on Wednesday defeating Colorado State

Even with good players, the Mustangs will encounter a formidable

opponent in Fresno State and University of California, Los Angeles. Cal Poly lost to UCLA twice this season. The Bruins were 28-0 going into the tournament.

This weekend the Mustangs will encounter the No. 7 Fresno State Bulldogs that have had a great season, with a record of 10-2 going into the tournament. The Bulldogs lost four all-star players this year and the team is mainly comprised by freshmen.

In Thursday night's game, the Mustangs needed to keep their eye on Fresno State senior Becky Witt's hits and stolen bases. Going into this weekend, Witt led her team with 13

runs and was tied with a 20-year-old school record for most stolen bases in a game.

The Mustangs also played Fresno State Thursday night, but the game was still in progress at press time. Twenty teams have participated in Hedrick's Hallowell Chevrolet Classic Tournament. The classic is a four-day, seven-team tournament field showcasing four Top 20 teams. Fresno State has captured two titles (1998, 2000), Oregon State has one (1998) and UCLA has the other (1999). In tournament action, Cal Poly is 3-3, Oregon State is 9-1,

see **SOFTBALL**, page 7

SPORTSBAR	Sports Trivia	Schedule	Schedule
	Yesterday's Answer: Michael Jordan scored 63 points in the Chicago Bulls' double-overtime loss to the Boston Celtics in the 1986 playoffs? Congrats Luke Higgins! Today's Question: Where did Bill Russell play college basketball?	TODAY • Baseball vs. Columbia • at Baggett Stadium or SLO Stadium* • at 5 p.m. or 6 p.m.* • Women's basketball vs. LB State/Idaho • at Anaheim • at noon SATURDAY • Baseball vs. Columbia • at SLO Stadium • at noon	SATURDAY • Women's tennis vs. UC Irvine • at Irvine • at noon SUNDAY • Baseball vs. Columbia • at Baggett Stadium • noon • Women's tennis vs. Long Beach State • at Long Beach • at 10 a.m.
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